Impact of Import of Edible Oils on Prices

3704. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import of edible oil has lowered the prices thereof;

(b) if so, the extent to which import thereof has reduced the prices; and

(c) the reasons for the high prices of edible oils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) Import of edible oil increases availability of the commodity in the country and hence, has its impact on prices in the open market. The extent of the impact largely depends on the quantity of imported edible oil released for distribution. Since import of edible oil has been suspended with effect from April, 1991 on account of severe foreign exchange constraints, prices of edible oil is at present being ruled by the availability of indigenous edible oils in the country.

Distribution of Foodgrains in Packs

3705. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to supply the foodgrains through the Fair Price Shops in packs with details of weight and price; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Central Government makes bulk allocation of foodgrains to State Governments/UT Administrations, which arrange for its distribution to the consumers in the country.

Upward revision of margin of Essential Commodities for Karnataka

3706. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has been repeatedly requesting for the upward revision of the margin for the supply of essential commodities to the State through Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the margin for the supply of essential commodities;

(c) whether the Government have acceded to the request of the Karnataka Government; and

(d) if so, by what time a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (d) A request for enhancing the transport charges for carrying levy Sugar has been received from Karnataka Government and is under consideration.

Computer Training Centres

3707. SHRI V. N. SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of computer training centres functioning in the country in various States;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up more such computer training centres in the country; if so, the details in regard along with their proposed locations; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to give a boost to the computer industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PEN-